

Montana Board of Research and Commercialization Technology
Board Meeting Teleconference
November 5, 2008

Members

Attending: Marty Connell, Acting Chairman
Jim Davison
Todd Graetz
Paul Tuss

Others Dave Desch, Executive Director

Attending: Jane Todd, Administrative Specialist
Sylvia Moore, Deputy Commissioner for Academic & Student Affairs,
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

I. Call to Order

Marty Connell, sitting in for Chairman Youngberg, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from 9/26/08 Board Meeting

Dave Desch asked for comments or corrections to the minutes of the September 26, 2008, Board meeting. There being no discussion, Todd Graetz moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jim Davison seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carried.

II. Executive Director's Report

A brief discussion was held regarding presentation of program reports on CDs and it was the consensus of the Board that this is a good change. In regard to upcoming submissions, it was agreed that each applicant be required to submit an electronic version of the proposal as well as a number of paper copies.

Dave Desch provided a summary of the following information included in the Board packet:

a) Budgets - Year-end FY2008 and first quarter summary for FY2009.

Mr. Desch pointed out that the administrative budget comes out of the \$3.65 million statutory appropriation made in July every year, and not out of HB2. Unspent funds are kept in a special revenue account managed by the Board of Investments and invested in the Short Term Investment Pool (STIP). Earnings on funds in that account are dollars available to the Board for funding projects.

b) Follow-on Funding

Follow-on Funding is a metric used to demonstrate the importance of MBRCT funding to the state. The current total is \$204 million. This is a large number and demonstrates the fact that many projects have attracted significant funding after MBRCT involvement. Out of 147 awards, 81 (55%) have reported follow-on funding.

November 5, 2008

SBIR is also a good fit with this program with 38% of the company projects having SBIR funding as match or as follow-on funding. About 40% of grant dollars go to salaries and the follow-on funding numbers are contributing to many salaries in the state.

c) Project Reports

1) Production ag and clean coal/renewable resource spreadsheets indicate how these statutory mandates are being met. Thirty-one percent meets the 30% requirement for clean coal/renewable resource mandate; 25% meets the 20% requirement for production ag.

2) Project Progress Reports are one paragraph summaries of active projects assembled by year.

3) Final Reports – Unexpurgated versions of the Final Reports submitted in 2008 are on a CD included in the Board packet. Final Report summaries are provided in narrative reports assembled by year.

4) Pre-Agreement Status is an update on #09 contracts. Eighteen of 20 projects awarded have been executed, and two are in the process of being executed.

5) Commercialization Successes – Twenty-six projects have resulted in the sale of a product or service to date. Several more are expected to be added to the commercialization success list in the next few months and will be added to the website as they are reported.

d) Upcoming Request for Proposals

The new Request For Proposal will be released in December. Application submission deadline will be March 2, 2009.

e) Rotunda Showcase

The Rotunda Showcase, which is an opportunity for grant recipients to display their projects in poster form for legislators, is scheduled for February 10, 2009. Board members are invited to attend.

III. Set Time and Date for Next Meeting

- Teleconference meeting – Monday, March 16, 2009, 11:00 a.m.
- In-person meeting – May 19th and 20th in Bozeman

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Adjourn

Paul Tuss moved to adjourn the meeting. Todd Graetz seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

November 5, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

John Youngberg, Chairman